YMCA

CANADA

A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL — YMCA'S OF CANADA

SPRING 1972

GENERAL SECRETARY'S CORNER

Here is a quick overview of important developments since the Fall: -

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

All but one of the eleven YMCA, YMCA-YWCA regions across the country have held at least one meeting since the Fall. Several areas have had two or three meetings. In many cases some formal organizational pattern has emerged. Three of the Regions have held major conferences and in seven of the Regions local YWCAs are participating actively. In two areas joint YMCA-YWCA Councils have been established.

This spontaneous development reflects, to a large degree, where Canada is at. It seems imperative that co-operative activity among Y's in geographic areas take place, but at the same time each part of Canada seems to feel that regional differences must be acknowledged and that planning must take this into account.

All regions will have selected their representative for appointment to the new National Board before September 30th.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE Y.W.C.A.

Our two Presidents and the General Executives of the two National Movements have been meeting regularly for three years. Outcomes of these discussions have been co-operative ventures such as National 'Y' Week, and the holding of joint National meetings from time to time. Since the Fall, with the presentation of the 'Mackie' report from the amalgamated YMCA-YWCAs, serious discussions have been taking place regarding the future relationship of the two Movements. The importance of these discussions have been reinforced by the expression of interest from local 'Y's.

A proposed Joint Commission is now being proposed and a full report will be presented to both national bodies at a combined meeting on Sunday, May 28th.

From time to time in the past each of the Movements has studied the question of closer relationships, but this will be the first effort to mount a joint study which is all-embracing in scope. Both National Presidents - Mrs. Molly Chadsey and Mr. Holbrook Davis -- have been giving personal leadership to these discussions.

TASK FORCE STUDYING UNITED COMMUNITY FUND RELATIONSHIPS

This national Task Force under the Chairmanship of Mr. Gary Campbell of Edmonton has met twice, and several initiatives are under way.

First, efforts are being made to encourage Y's in Canada to adopt the new common Code of Accounts and program functions. This will help improve our internal management systems and clarify for public understanding the various functions and services rendered by the 'Y'. Discussions with United Funds should also be more consistent and satisfactory.

The 'Y' in many ways is unique in communities because of its size, its facility network, and because of the wide scope of differentiated services. Confusion of our public image stems in part from this wide range of activity. An important next step is the sorting out of costing unit criteria for each of the respective functions. Staff leadership from the largest 'Y' operations is working on this with the Task Force.

In several of the large cities important discussions between the 'Y' and United Community Fund are taking place in an attempt to resolve emerging problems. Hopefully new approaches to problems will be developed which will help strengthen the non-governmental sector.

The Task Force views as very important the concept that the 'Y' is able to strengthen its operating competency, retain its autonomy, but report far more satisfactorily its activities to the total community.

Recently leaders of the fifteen largest voluntary organizations in Canada involved with United Funds, met to prepare a combined statement. The Statement affirmed support for the United Fund concept but urged frequent and continuing dialogue to begin as soon as possible so that fast-emerging problems could be dealt with! There is concern that the whole non-governmental sector has become weakened and that the United Fund movement itself may be in jeopardy.

SOME CLOSING THOUGHTS:

In this day when we tend to think of goals and objectives in relation to any large enterprise, I would like to suggest three basic objectives for our YMCA Movement: - - -

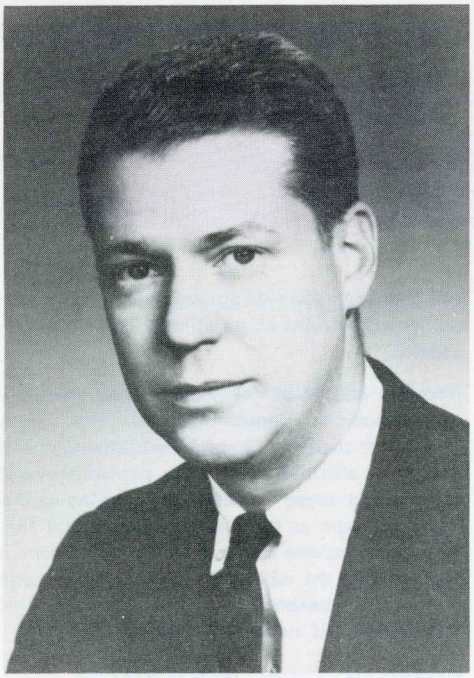
1. To substantially upgrade and enlarge the operating competency of Y's across the country.
   Most Y's are doing a pretty good job with their present operations, but as our community service role increases, collaboration with other organizations grows, and stronger links are built with disadvantaged sectors of the community, a new enlarged management capacity is required.

2. To enlarge and improve the 'Y' Movement in Canada
   The supporting forces between individual Y's must be strengthened to provide greater mutual support and identity, and any insularity of thinking as an individual 'Y' must be changed. In this fast-moving era of Canada's history the total 'Y' must be able to think and act in enlarged and mutual terms.

3. To improve the Y's identity and visibility in the community at large, locally, nationally and internationally
   Our external links with the community at large, other large organizations and various levels of government must be a major preoccupation of all 'Y' leaders. This is a time when collaboration in all sectors is crucial. Government initiatives need to be met by parallel initiatives in the non-governmental sector. Above all, voluntary organizations need to be assisting and influencing government activity in the social field.
   The time has come, too, when we need to describe clearly and forthrightly 'Y' objectives in the community as well as describing our programs and services.

RIX G. ROGERS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



OUR GREATEST SINS OF OMISSION?

Elsewhere in this issue you will read about meetings, task forces, appointments, studies, and statements. In your own Associations you are concerned with activities, events and programs. Well and good, and by and large our action-oriented programs represent sincere efforts to "do something" for and with our members and participants, with particular reference, I hope, to youth.

But are we overlooking and failing to give attention to those more fundamental problems which sometimes consciously, and more often unconsciously, are the problems which really "bug" our younger generation? I believe so and have come to firmly feel that what bothers them most are visions of a world of tomorrow, coupled with an apparent failure to take steps today - - before it may be too late - - to shape that world in such a way that they may survive and prosper culturally, spiritually and materially.

Drug abuse, apathy, alienation, and generation gaps arise as much - - or more - - from an apprehension of the future than from reaction to present day conditions.

Many young people blame us, rightfully, for our complacence and inaction and no amount of adult engineered recreational or educational activities will make up for our sins of omission or erase their resentment.

For example, unless we can significantly alter present trends in the areas of depletion of natural resources, ecological deterioration, environmental pollution, population control and an urban way of life, conditions with which our children will have to contend will be almost untenable.

propose that membership in our Movement imposes on each of us a moral obligation to stand up and be counted. The exercise of that obligation should not be equated with angry denunciation or polarization of view points for such a course would hardly be constructive.

Taking into account the nature of modern society, standing up and being counted really means bringing more pressure to bear on our representatives at all levels of government. True, we can do much in our own homes and daily activities to shape the world tomorrow, but the problems that face us are such that governmental action at all levels is an essential ingredient in influencing the conditions of the future, particularly in the areas of depletion of natural resources, ecology pollution, population control and the urban way of life.

We, therefore, must develop a more meaningful and communicative relationship with all echelons of government through which we can explain our views, and strongly advocate more constructive legislation. I, for one, feel that such an increase in pressure would probably result in a major breakthrough.

HOLBROOK R. DAVIS

LAVERN M. HERBERT

Suddenly, after a brief illness, on the night of January 8, 1972, the Canadian YMCA lost one of its most dedicated career Secretaries - Lavern M. Herbert of Calgary, Alberta.

Lavern was born near Brandon, Manitoba and started his YMCA career with the Association in that city. At 19 he became the General Secretary - the youngest person to serve in that capacity in the Canadian YMCA. After acquiring his B.Sc. from George Williams College in Chicago he went to the Quebec City YMCA as Program, and later General Secretary of that Association. In 1943 he came to the National Council staff as Extension Director until 1951 when he accepted the position of Executive Director of the Brantford YMCA-YWCA. In 1958 he was invited to become the General Secretary of the Calgary YMCA, a post he relinquished in 1970 to take on some "special projects" for that Association, from which he retired in August, 1971.

Lavern's whole life was dedicated to the Canadian YMCA and to the life of the community in which he lived, for which service he received the Canada Medal in 1967. His special interests and skills brought him many offers in World Service and fund-raising but instead he used these skills with the Canadian YMCA so that every one he touched grew in size and stature in his community.

His wife, Elva, and daughter Jackie, reside at 3916 - 25 Avenue S. W., Calgary, Alta.

NATIONAL BOARD COMMITTED TO MULTI-CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA

At its recent meeting May 27th, the National Board of the YMCAs of Canada unanimously adopted the following Resolution, to support the many initiatives underway by individual YMCAs and YMCA-YWCAs across the country. The Resolution reads as follows:

"The National Council of YMCAs of Canada is increasingly aware of the role that private agencies and Associations can play in the development of a sense of National unity in the Canada of the 70's. The Federal Government, through its legislation has underlined the fact that neither unity nor equality is attainable by wishful thinking but will only be achieved as a result of committed and responsible attempts to create a foundation for a bilingual and multi-cultural ethos. The Federal

Government cannot create this ethos unless it is actively supported by structures within our country that recognize and accept their part in the commitment that is required.

The YMCA, as a National Association, reiterates its belief that co-operative efforts between the voluntary sector and the government can assist both sectors in the achievement of mutual goals. Through out-reach programing, adult education departments, human relations training skills and physical education resources, YMCAs intend to maintain and to enhance their services to the communities in which they are located.

THEREFORE:

(a) The National Council of YMCAs, during 1972/73, will be embarking on increased co-operative endeavours with other National bodies, voluntary and governmental.

(b) Similarly, many YMCAs will be expanding their co-operative endeavours with local organizations and governments at all levels, to include a series of demonstrations projects aimed at furthering National dialogue and understanding at the grass roots level in Canada."

WORLD YMCA MEETING set for July, 1973 in Kampala, Uganda

Kampala, capital of Uganda, is to be the site of the 1973 World Council of YMCAs. The meetings will take place from July 18th to 25th and will attract some 500 delegates representing all National YMCA movements around the world. A new, modern and well equipped conference centre, built by the Government of Uganda, will house the Conference.

A delegation of fifty persons, including wives and visitors, is expected from Canada and plans are underway to visit several African countries enroute to Kampala.

Mr. Niels Petersen, Chairman of the National Board, has accepted the post of Chairman of the Canadian Planning Committee and staff services will be provided by Gordon Ramsay.

Very shortly detailed information and guidelines for selecting delegates, conference costs, etc., will be sent to all Associations. Delegates will be appointed by next October and pre-Conference meetings will be planned preceding the world meetings.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OTTAWA OFFICE COMPLETES FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION

In September, 1970 the Ottawa Office of the National Council was opened with Associate General Secretary Les Vipond giving staff leadership to this new assignment. The mandate of the office was as follows: - - -

.. TO advise and assist the 'Y' in communicating with the Federal Government and to help the 'Y' formulate viewpoints and express itself nationally in areas where it has special insights, interest and competence.

.. TO give advice and direction to the 'Y' in organizing and conducting projects and programs of mutual interest with various governmental and other related bodies and to assist in evaluating such projects.

.. TO advise and assist the 'Y' in establishing channels of effective communication and relationships with other levels of government.

.. TO advise and assist the 'Y' National Council in interpreting national and international issues to the 'Y' constituency on such matters as: -

- .. Government policy in matters relevant to the Y's task;
- .. Emerging Canadian issues appropriate for action by the 'Y';
- .. The potential role of the Canadian 'Y' abroad in relation to governmental programs and the national interest.

.. TO assist in identifying sources of financial support for special and socially useful 'Y' projects from governmental sources.

.. TO assist local Y's in presenting proposals for joint projects to Government Departments, and to bring to the Y's attention opportunities and needs in respect of Government policies and programs in which the 'Y' might participate.

.. TO advise and assist in communicating with the 'Y' constituency on such matters.

In addition the Secretary was given responsibility for YMCA relationships with national organizations with objectives similar to the 'Y' and for representing the Canadian YMCA with the World Alliance of YMCAs and the YMCAs of other countries.

The twelve months of 1971 represent the first full calendar year of the Ottawa Office, so it may be of interest to review in specific categories the various activities and services performed by the office during the year in the following manner:-

CATEGORIES

The bulk of the activities of the Ottawa office can be categorized under the following headings, with a rough percentage shown of the time spent in each of them, and the total number of contacts involved in each.

1. Service on behalf of specific YMCAs or YMCA-YWCAs - 35%
   Information on L.I.P. and O.F.Y., regulations for National Parks, tax information re Health Clubs, Endowment Funds, etc., help with applications for Travel and Exchange, Welfare Grants, Drug programs, transportation for international exchanges, Manpower Training programs, Fitness programs, translation services, etc.
   Number of contacts - 164

2. General Consultation with Government officials seeking general information for the YMCAs and making Movement representations - 15%
   Long-range projects; e.g., winter employment projects, summer youth projects, drug programs, etc.; details on new programs, bilingual grants, implications of income tax amendments, retirement fund regulations, etc.; presenting 'Y' statement re Young Offenders' Act, O.F.Y. evaluation, etc.; interviews with Members of Parliament.
   Number of contacts - 144

3. National Council Tasks - 22%
   Attending World Alliance meetings, National Council Executive Committee, National Board, Staff meetings and other Committees, personnel interviews, etc., supplying data for national and international bodies.
   Number of contacts - 69

4. Ottawa Office and Committee business and meetings - 5%
   Committee meetings, meeting with Chairman, meetings with 'urban group', interviews and advice-seeking sessions with members, etc.
   Number of contacts - 40

5. Visits and interviews with Association personnel - 13%
   Helping with making contacts and arranging appointments; providing information re YMCA matters.
   Number of contacts - 54

6. Contacts with other voluntary and national organizations - 10%
   Mostly in Ottawa, some in Toronto - - includes Boy Scouts, Boys' Clubs, CCSD, ARF, YWCA, executives of voluntary organizations, CCIC, ICSW, BIE, etc., etc. Canadian member of the YMCA Retirement Fund Board of Trustees.
   Number of contacts - 106

These contacts or specific interventions were with or on behalf of 56 different Associations.

The Government Relations function profits from the advice and supervision of a Government Relations Committee. Its Chairman is Henry F. Davis who replaced Maurice F. Strong early in 1971 when Mr. Strong became Under Secretary General of the United Nations. Other members of the Committee are: -

Mrs. R.A. Bell	Mrs. Ryrie Smith
John J. Carson	G.G. Ernest Steele
Dr. G. F. Davidson	Dr. J. W. Willard
Timothy W. Plumptre	W. W. Smallman

EX OFFICIO

Holbrook R. Davis	Mrs. P.J. Chadsey

With the formation of the group of Executives of National Agencies, for which the Ottawa Office took major responsibility, there has been a major increase in the amount of time devoted to working with other voluntary and national organizations. The assumption by the Secretary of the Chairmanship of the Canadian Committee of the International Conference on Social Welfare has also added to this segment of the job.

There is also an increase in the number of Association representatives who visit the Ottawa Office or who rely on it to make appointments for them with specific government department officials.

"Y - PONDERINGS"

A regular bulletin called "Y-Ponderings" was published by the Ottawa Office and sent to all member Associations. During the year there were 18 issues of the bulletin.

PARTICIPACION '72 MEXICO CITY, July 21 - 31 An Event for Young People, 18 to 25, Sponsored by THE WORLD ALLIANCE OF YMCAs

Application forms are out to all Canadian Associations to select Canada's delegation to Participacion '72. Three hundred young adults,

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Holbrook R. Davis, President
Niels F. Petersen, Chairman of National Board
Rix G. Rogers, General Secretary.

PATRON,
His Excellency The Right Honourable Roland Michener, C.C., C.D.
Governor General of Canada.

from all over the world, will be meeting together in Mexico City in late July.

The ten-day conference is just one facet of a year-long program designed by the World Alliance around three world concerns: Human Development, Social Development and YMCA Responses.

Fifteen spaces have been alloted to the Canadian YMCA. General Secretaries have been asked to nominate delegates with a high level of YMCA motivation and involvement. General knowledge, sensitivity and awareness of the areas of concern are other desired qualifications. Cost per delegate will be $400, including transportation costs from community to Toronto for a pre-conference orientation program, July 17-19.

It will be possible for Canadian Associations sponsoring delegates to the conference also to play host to participants from other countries following the event in Mexico. By routing Third World representatives through Canada on their return journeys, these guests will be available to interpret life in their home countries to Canadian communities.

Participacion '72 provides an exciting opportunity for young Canadians to contribute to international understanding.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 9 - 12, 1972 AT GENEVA PARK

The National Board, at its March meeting, has responded to a request by the Task Force on National Council Financing, and plans to hold another Board Meeting in May to hear the Task Force report.

The effect of this action is to postpone the Annual Meeting until Fall.

Following the Task Force report to the National Board, the summer months will be devoted to a study of the report by each Association in Canada along with discussions at Regional meetings.

At the Annual Meeting in November at Geneva Park important guidelines and decisions will be set which will influence the Movement for years to come.

The Task Force, chaired by William Hogg of Sault Ste. Marie is composed of lay and staff leaders and has been at work for a year exploring the role and functions of the national organization and developing a pattern for financing its activity.

Notice has also been given to make several constitutional amendments at this Annual Meeting to streamline the organization. The most important of these is to revamp the National Board from a 60 member body to a 27 person body - much more representative of individual YMCAs and YMCA-YWCAs through the new regional structures.

The Annual Meeting of National Council itself will change to a two year pattern with an enlarged Conference pattern every four years.

THE YMCA WILL PARTICIPATE IN STOCKHOLM

Three Canadian 'Y' delegates will participate in the Environmental Forum with Non-governmental Organizations, in conjunction with the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden from June 5th to 16th. Representatives of over 200 organizations will be involved in this Forum.

This decision was reached by the Executive Committee of the National Board when an invitation was extended to join a plan which had been evolved for a delegation of twenty-five from the United States YMCA to go to the Conference.

The following Canadians will join the United States delegation in a special charter flight to the Conference, and take part in a special three day preparation meeting to be held at Skantacon, Denmark.

Mr. Ernest Griffith, General Manager, Toronto Harbour Commission; Member Board of Governors of Toronto YMCA.;

Mr. Paul M. Koch, Representative for I.B.M. Canada; Past President of Burlington YMCA; Regional Vice-President of National Council.

Mr. Donald L. McGregor, Member of National Council Staff; Consultant to Western Canada 'Y's.

It is hoped that the conference group will develop a five year program for YMCAs in North America to become more directly involved in dealing with environmental problems.

It is of particular interest for YMCA representatives to take part because of the close association of Maurice Strong with the 'Y' for so many years. Mr. Strong is Secretary-General of the Stockholm Conference and served as President of the Canadian National Council of YMCAs from 1966 to 1968.

NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT APPOINTED

GORDON CHARLES CRESSY of Toronto was appointed National Vice-President at the National Board Meeting held in Toronto on May 27-28, 1972.

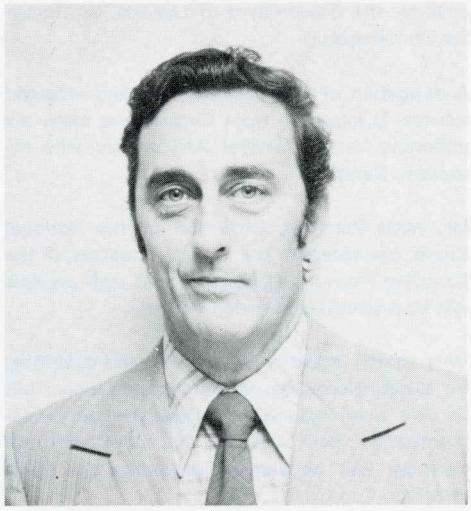
Gordon was born in Toronto on November 13th, 1943; is Director of Opportunity House, Inc. and a Senior School Trustee for Ward 7, on the Toronto Board of Education. He is a graduate of George Williams College in Chicago, and the University of Toronto.

He served as a CUSO Volunteer with the YMCA at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad; was Chairman of the World-Y-Development Committee and of the Government Relations Committee of the Toronto YMCA; and is a member of the Toronto YMCA Board of Directors.

For one term he held the post of Acting Chairman of the National YMCA Communications Committee and is a member of the National Board of the National Council of YMCAs.

NATIONAL COUNCIL STAFF CHANGES

The month of June, 1972, will see two members of the National Staff leaving National Council:- -



WILLIAM (Bill) H. SKINNER

Bill was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and after four years of service with the RCAF continued his education in that City, leading to a B.S.W. in Group Work from the University of Manitoba. In 1950 Bill started his work with the YMCA in Winnipeg; in 1955 he moved on to the Vancouver YMCA; and in September of 1963 crossed the country to re-activate the St. John's, Newfoundland YMCA.

In September, 1965 he came on the National Staff to take the new post of Staff Development Secretary and in 1969 was appointed Associate General Secretary in charge of coordinating national services to the Associations. In 1970 he became the Associate General Secretary to co-ordinate all the "Operations" of National Council as well as direct consultative services to certain large Associations.

During the illness of Les Vipond he took over the reins of Acting General Secretary, and also served in that capacity from September, 1970 until Rix G. Rogers took over as General Secretary in April, 1971.

The National Council's loss is certainly a real gain for the YMCA-YWCA of Victoria, B.C., where Bill will be taking over as Executive Director in July of this year, succeeding James A. McConnell, who is retiring at that time.

Bill has a remarkable ability to work with and assist in the development of staff and volunteer leaders; in community relations and consultation. He will be sorely missed on our staff, but we are sure he will do a terrific job for the Victoria Association.

continued:-

NATIONAL COUNCIL STAFF CHANGES cont:

C. ALEX OWEN

Alex also started out life in Winnipeg - - a few years after Bill Skinner! He, too, started his career in the YMCA with the Winnipeg Association.

In 1955 he left to become the General Secretary of the YMCA in Midland, Ontario and three years later moved on to the Toronto YMCA with posts in the Etobicoke and North Toronto Branches. In 1964 he returned to Winnipeg to take on the Program and Staff Development job in the YMCA.

In late 1968 he joined the National Staff in the Program Services Department. In 1970 when the Research, Planning and Development arm of the National Council was set up Alex took on the job of Co-ordinator. At the end of June this year he will leave that post to take a position on the staff of the Toronto YMCA Project in the St. James Town area of Toronto.

We will miss Alex too, and trust his special expertise will be put to good use in his new position.

SOVIET YOUTH LEADERS VISIT CANADA

The Canadian YMCA is hosting three members of the Committee of Youth Organizations of the USSR from May 10 - 25. The group's leader is Mr. S.A. Tchibiryayev, Deputy Chairman of the C.Y.O. This visit is the second stage of a Canada-USSR exchange program which began in 1971 at the invitation of the C.Y.O.

Four Canadian Y Youth Leaders visited the Soviet Union in October, 1971. Terry Jones, Henry Rozenblat, Robert Morton and Roy Male, represented the YMCAs in Moncton, Montreal, Midland and Hamilton, and it is in these communities that the Soviet visitors are spending most of their time, with side trips to Toronto.

Mr. Graham Fram, Executive Director of the Hamilton Downtown YMCA, is the Y's host guide' to the USSR delegation, travelling with them during their entire stay in Canada.

It is hoped that this exchange will be just the beginning of a series of programs which will help both laymen and staff to get a better understanding of youth work in other countries.

Left to right - -
Paul Delaney; Stanislav Tchibiryayev;
Soviet interpreter Alla Smirnova
and Anatole Fomin

(Paul Delaney is the administrator of Ste-Marie among the Hurons)

DID YOU KNOW?

EMPLOYMENT

29.7% (154) of all staff employed as Boys', Girls', Youth and Community Workers.

20.5% (153) of all staff employed as Physical Educators, Assistants and Aquatic Directors

Total growth in staff in 5 years was 17.7% (92)

AGE

The Median age of all staff was 30 years of age.

50% of the Boys', Girls', and Youth staff were below 25

50% of the Physical Education staff were below 27.

EDUCATION

50 staff have a Master's Degree or a Doctorate

273 staff have a Bachelor's Degree

27 have completed a Post High School Diploma program.

this represents 62.2% of all staff.